

CLAIMS:-

1. A modular printhead for a digital printer, the modular printhead comprising:
a plurality of printhead modules, each printhead module including a printhead
5 chip;
a support frame, the support frame including a plurality of module engagement
plates provided with an adjustment mechanism;
means to engage a printhead module with a corresponding module engagement
plate of the support frame;
10 a reservoir moulding for storing ink;
at least one ink communication channel provided for each printhead module, the
at least one ink communication channel adapted to facilitate ink flow from the reservoir
moulding through an engagement plate and into the respective printhead module;
wherein the adjustment mechanism is adapted to effect minute adjustments of the
15 position of the corresponding printhead module with respect to the support frame.
2. The modular printhead according to claim 1, wherein an elastomeric strip is
provided between the reservoir moulding and the support frame.
- 20 3. The modular printhead according to claim 1, wherein a printhead module is
provided with at least one ink funnel forming at least part of the ink communication
channel and is plugged into the reservoir moulding via at least one corresponding
aperture in a module engagement plate.
- 25 4. The modular printhead according to claim 3, wherein a printhead module is
provided with four ink funnels and a module engagement plate is provided with four
apertures.
- 30 5. The modular printhead according to claim 1, wherein the adjustment mechanism
includes an input lever fulcrumed against the support frame for acting on a module
engagement plate, the module engagement plate connected to the support frame by
hinged link arms such that the resilient movement of the plate is substantially linear.

6. The modular printhead according to claim 1, wherein each printhead module includes a printhead chip bonded to a tape automated bond film supported by at least one moulding.

5 7. The modular printhead according to claim 1, wherein operation of the adjustment mechanism effects abutment of adjacent printhead chips.

8. The modular printhead according to claim 1, wherein the support frame is a metallic chassis and a module engagement plate is integrally formed with the metal
10 chassis via hinged arms.

9. The modular printhead according to claim 3, wherein the at least one ink funnel provides means to engage the printhead module with the corresponding module engagement plate.

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